



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

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TO: Delegate Atterbeary, Chair
Delegate Wilkins, Vice Chair
Way and Means Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus
DATE: February 24, 2025
RE: HB875 – Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education

The MLLC supports HB875 – Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB875.

This bill establishes the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education to make recommendations to the Maryland State Board of Education and the State Department of Education. The commission's goal is to promote the discovery, interpretation, and teaching of the history, culture, and civics of the United States and Maryland while ensuring equitable learning outcomes for all students, consistent with the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. The commission will consist of representatives from diverse communities, including Indigenous tribes, LGBTQIA+ individuals, disabled persons, Latino, African American, and Asian American communities, as well as educators and higher education representatives. It will provide annual recommendations and reports, aiming to create inclusive educational standards and programs that reflect Maryland's diverse heritage and history.

HB875 is relevant to the Latino community as it ensures their contributions, history, and culture are represented in Maryland's educational curriculum. By appointing two representatives from the Maryland Latino community to the Commission, the bill gives Latino voices a platform to influence how their heritage is taught in schools. This inclusion helps to address historical underrepresentation of Latino achievements and experiences in education, fostering a more accurate and inclusive understanding of their role in shaping Maryland and the United States. Moreover, it promotes equitable learning outcomes, which can empower Latino students by seeing their identities reflected in their studies, strengthening cultural pride and academic engagement. The bill's emphasis on diversity ensures that future generations better understand and appreciate the rich contributions of the Latino community.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB875.